North-East Build Wisconsin Regional Workshop Small Group Record

Small Group 2327 (color)

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Top 10 responses to the question: "What can the <u>State</u> do to foster economic growth in your region?"

Priority response #1 (votes:) Promote business development—attraction expansion, and start-ups.

Priority response #2 (votes:) <u>Improve education.</u>

Priority response #3 (votes:) Governmental reform.

Priority response #4 (votes:) Business financing.

Priority response #5 (votes:) Transportation improvements.

Priority response #6 (votes:) <u>Broadband infrastructure</u>.

Priority response #7 (votes:) Comprehensive energy planning.

"Actions Necessary to Achieve our Ideas" Exercise

"If we want to accomplish this [priority issue #1], what does "the State" (as defined earlier) have to do now?

Priority Issue #1 Business Development.

Responses to the question: "If we want to accomplish this [priority issue], what does "the State" (as defined earlier) have to do now?"

*Increase workers' skills.

- *Focus university/college programs to regional needs.
- *Assess region's business needs.
- *Incumbent worker training.
- *Expand school year from 180 days to 200 days.

*Distribute research throughout UW system by tying it to regional needs.

*Encourage higher paying jobs.

*State financing programs reward quality rather than quantity of jobs. Eliminate LMI requirements.

*Incumbent worker training.

*Recruit expand and incubate high value added, professional/technical companies.

*Entrepreneurial Development.

- *Create and support a regional one stop business assistance center.
- *Provide communications, transportation, and energy infrastructure to support businesses.
- *Provide risk capital.

*Encourage growth of existing businesses.

- *Change IRB cap from 10M to 20M and eliminate carry forward/carry back provisions.
- *Provide broadband, energy, and transportation infrastructure.
- *Modify the command control philosophy of regulatory agencies including mercury thresholds.

*Encourage high tech industries.

- *Provide incentives to keep young people in Wisconsin.
- *Improve financial technical assistance to embrace new technologies.
- *Provide appropriate broadband, energy infrastructure.